

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD.

Published Monthly by the American Bible Society.

VOLUME 34.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 17, 1889.

NUMBER I.

The work of the American Bible Society is both missionary and benevolent. To all classes in this country the Bible is sold at the mere cost of publication, while in foreign lands the Scriptures are offered at cost or at merely nominal prices, and given to the poor everywhere without money and without price.

NOTICE.

The fiscal year of this Society closes on Saturday, the 30th day of March, and remittances which are to be acknowledged among the receipts of the year *must reach the Bible House on or before that day.*

Treasurers of auxiliary societies are earnestly invited to forward promptly the funds which come into their hands, either directly to the Treasurer at the Bible House, or through the Society's District Superintendents. The annual reports of auxiliaries should be sent also, and any information concerning the decease of life members and directors or their change of residence, that the proper corrections may be made before printing the Annual Report.

THE BIBLE RECORD CORROBORATED.

BY BISHOP JOHN F. HURST, D.D.

So far, every tablet which Rawlinson and George Smith and others have found on the banks of the Euphrates have corroborated the Biblical record. In the later reading of them all we shall see, not that the Pentateuch is a group of empty myths, but that the myths are *only* the dim oral reflections from the first recorded light in that Pentateuch. Smith has found, for example, in the tiles of dead and buried Babylon, the Chaldean myth of Noah and the flood.

We read in the word of God these words: "Marvellous things did he in Zoan." What was Zoan? Where was it? Within two years we have learned all about it. There is a vast section of the Delta of the Nile which covers five hundred thousand acres of land, and is called the Menzeleh district. It is purely primitive. The land is flat, covered by water during the inundation of the Nile, and forming great lagoons, occupied mostly by fishermen. That is the Zoan of the Bible, the Tanis of to-day. Great temples have been discovered. Vast palaces of superb sculpture have been thrown open. The houses are of immense proportions. You can see

the labyrinthian paths which led through the cemeteries of five thousand years ago. Beautiful homes have been kissed by the sunlight. Now, when was Zoan founded? Moses tells us, far, far back in the centuries, "seven years after Hebron." Now, it turns out, by hieroglyphics and unmistakable records, that in this same Zoan, the Tanis of to-day, the splendid court of the great Rameses II. lived in all its splendor. Rameses was the Sesostris of history, the mightiest king in all the East. Even in his day he found Tanis a ruin, and built it up into his great capital. Here lived, later, Menepthah, the very Pharaoh of the Exodus. Here within the gates of Tanis, Moses performed his miracles of murrain and darkness. Here, amid the splendors of military pageantry, the immense Egyptian army set out for the capture of the fugitive Israelites, but came never back again. How little the builders of the cities knew of what they were doing in those distant times! How little the very destroyers knew, when they laid waste great cities, and left them for the desert sands to wrap them in their winding-sheets. Little they dreamed of the secret revelation which was yet to be made in all its fullness, and of the world's redemption through the incarnate God, and that down in the later ages, they should themselves arouse from their winding-sheet of desert sands and stand up as witnesses of that wonderful book. Within just a few months only, Maspero, the director-general of the antiquities of Egypt, has taken off the bandages of Sesostris, and his face has been photographed; and we now know the very features of the man who introduced the great oppression of the Israelites.

Another illustration of the enterprise with which the new countries are lifting the veil from the old and the buried, and making them tell their long-kept secrets, can be found in the results of the expedition to Assos, in Asia Minor, organized and paid for by the citizens of Boston, and conducted by Messrs. Clark and Bacon. Now, Assos has an important bearing upon the travels of Paul. It lies upon the Ægean coast, in the district of the ancient Mysia, and distant about twenty miles from Alexandria Troas, where Paul saw the Macedonian vision, and whence he set out for the evangelization of Europe.

He subsequently passed through Assos on foot, in order to take ship at Mitylene, for Cesarea in Palestine. These two American explorers have now unearthed this historical place. They found at first a miserable little fishing village perched among the rocks, but they have lifted its winding-sheet, and revealed to us, far beneath, vast buildings, rich treasures, magnificent sculptures, and all the characteristics of what Fellowes, long years ago, had said, was probably the most complete and undisturbed Greek city in existence. These treasures of Assos are now safely lodged in Boston, and can be studied at leisure. Here one can see with his own eyes the very triumphs of art which represented the Greek civilization whose polytheism Paul attacked in its strongholds. It would not be strange if some of the very objects which now are priceless treasures here in Boston, brought from their long entombment in Assos, were once, and often, gazed upon by Paul's own eyes.

Another illustration in the same line, can be found in the rich gatherings from Pergamos. A company of German explorers went to that city in Asia Minor a few years ago, and began their work. The result is, that they brought to light some of the most magnificent of all the colossal sculptures which have come down from Greek civilization to our own times. And what, forsooth, was Pergamos? In the early part of the Christian era it was a city of great size, a very centre of artistic achievements, and widely celebrated. The Christians—they were everywhere. If they could not be kept out of Rome, and even the palace of the Cæsars, neither could they be kept away from rich and lordly Pergamos. When John looked upon Asia Minor for a representative group of churches, he could not leave out that city. Here was a grand illustration of a wonderful truth: The Christian can be a Christian still, the wide world over. Put him in hut or palace, if he be true to his conscience, he is ever the Christian. To the Christians in proud and pagan Pergamos John wrote these words: "I know thy works, and where thou dwellest; and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those dark days when Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth." Now these German explorers thought they saw in the site of ancient Pergamos a storehouse of treasures different from, though hardly inferior to, the archæological wealth which Schliemann rescued from the depths of ancient Troy. And they were successful. Many of these colossal triumphs of Greek art have been lifted out of their long resting-place, and are now to be seen as one of the great ornaments of the National Museum of Berlin. The very sculptures which were familiar to Christian eyes nineteen centuries ago, may now be studied, face to face, and made to tell their story to any observer in this nineteenth century.

But what of Egypt in the same period? Less than two years ago the now renowned Naukratis was discovered through a single inscription found by Mr. Petrie on the west Canobic arm of the Nile, near the railway which runs from Alexandria to Cairo. Here was once a large city, the capital of Lower Egypt in the time of the Greek Ptolemaic ascendancy, before the Romans conquered the country. Here in

Naukratis was manufactured that rich and rare pottery whose glaring and exquisite form dazzled the eyes of the hunter of bric-a-brac long before a Cesar sat upon the Roman throne. Up the broad canals of Naukratis the great ships from the various Mediterranean ports moved, and stopped at the quays of the opulent city. This is proved by the presence of stones, with barnacles and seashells upon them, picked up by Petrie from the debris of the long buried city. Vases of rich and delicate form and color have been found in vast numbers and in infinite variety, all of which are described in the third memoir of the Egyptian exploration fund. Here is a celebrated city brought to light within a few months—a city which tells what Egypt was in the interval of four centuries lying between the closing of the Old Testament history and the opening of the new. It is a new revelation, and supplies an important missing link in the general history of the world. It is a lifting aside of the veil which hides the Egypt of the Ptolemies from the Christian student of to-day.—*Zion's Herald*.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

PONAPE.

LETTER FROM REV. E. T. DOANE.

PONAPE, Sept. 18, 1888.

Let me in few words say, we are needing very much a new supply of the New Testament, or *Tele Kap*, as it is called. The five hundred copies you sent were almost at once disposed of, and the call is for more. We are daily besieged by natives wanting to purchase a book. I never saw the like on Ponape. Our schools are flourishing, and the blessed Bible, the New Testament especially, is called for. Now under this pressure we make bold to ask of the Bible Society if it will not favor us with an immediate reprint of the book I send you.

Now my dear brother, you, or I should rather say the Bible Society, have the prosperity of this Mission in your hands. To delay the work till next summer will almost close our schools, will certainly dampen the zeal of many to possess the New Testament. In this view of things, shall I not be pardoned for pleading so earnestly for a new and immediate reprint of the book. We thank you very much for past favors; this new one granted will be only a new debt of love to the dear old Society. I may add, that we are able now to sell for cash all we have to dispose of. The occupancy of the island by the Spanish brings in and sets afloat more money. We shall be able to refund largely, if not entirely, for the books sent. Let me then urge that you favor us as I have asked.

I must thank you for sending the Scriptures in Spanish and other languages. Those in Spanish are finding quite a ready sale. Poor people! I know not why it is, but many a soldier, many a poor Manila native, is hungering for the bread of life. They know well enough their *padres* would destroy the books once seen, but they tell us they keep them unseen. We shall hope that some of these books will find their way to Manila, and strike a light there; but if

not this, we do pray that some souls here may be enlightened to find their way to heaven.

Truly yours,

E. T. DOANE.

The editors of the *Record* publish the foregoing letter as a striking illustration of the intimate relation which the Bible Society sustains to the evangelization of the pagan lands. The prosperity of the Ponape Mission depends on an immediate re-supply of the New Testament in the language of the people. The circulation of 500 copies only whets the demand for more, and Mr. Doane's great anxiety is lest it be impossible to reprint the book and forward it by the *Morning Star* next spring.

Fortunately Mr. Doane's request has been anticipated. The volume is not out of print, and a month before his letter was received at the Bible House, a new instalment of 500 copies had been sent on their way to San Francisco to await the earliest opportunity of being forwarded to their destination.

THE GOSPEL IN NORTHERN BRAZIL.

A monthly bulletin, containing missionary intelligence from Brazil, furnishes some noteworthy illustrations of the power of the Bible to prepare the way for the teacher and preacher. Such cases furnish a good warrant for such trips as Mr. Tucker has been making in parts of Brazil to which missionaries have not penetrated before, and at the same time they illustrate the necessity of following up Bible circulation with the institutions which belong to Christianity. The following incident is told by the Rev. W. C. Porter, after a visit to Monte Alegre in the province of Parahyba.

Monte Alegre is a good example of what the gospel is doing in Brazil. It is a little farm situated in a valley surrounded by mountains. We left the railroad at a station twelve miles away, and went the rest of the way on horseback. As we rode along the winding path, through the openings in the mountains, I was impressed with God's wonderful ways of sending the gospel of salvation. Here, seventy-five miles from the capital of the province, in a hidden break in the mountains, the good news of the Messiah had entered amidst open opposition. An ex-soldier of the Brazilian army heard, some twelve years ago, the gospel preached in Pernambuco, and at that time he asked baptism of Mr. Smith; but he now confesses that he did not know what it meant. Mr. Smith prudently put him off.

The next we hear of Sr. Silvio is that he had gone to Monte Alegre, and married the daughter of its owner, Sr. Alvez, of the Romish church. However, the "good seed" was not lost, and in time sprang up. Sr. Silvio began reading the Scriptures to his father-in-law's family, and to the neighbors. He soon found that while the people were willing to listen, they were too ignorant to understand much. To remedy this drawback, Sr. Silvio opened a night-school to teach old and young how to read the Bible. These poor mountaineers came every night after the day's

labor in the field to learn the story of Jesus. Sr. Silvio used the New Testament as the reading-book. Sr. Alvez told me that at one time, before the gospel had worked a change, he had need of three signatures to a document; and though he searched the whole neighborhood, he only found Sr. Silvio and his daughter. The other day, when I was there, I saw persons of all ages, excepting infants, singing from hymn-books and learning new tunes; they are studying also the Shorter Catechism. In Sr. Alvez' family, he himself, his wife, and daughter, Sr. Silvio, his son-in-law, and three children of the latter—three generations—were reclaimed from Rome.

LANGUAGES IN BRAZIL WAITING FOR THE BIBLE.

The monthly bulletin devoted to "Brazilian Missions" calls attention to new openings for evangelizing the Indians of that empire. Its latest tidings are from various tribes, amounting in all to more than 3,000 souls, residing in the Amazon Valley; peaceable, gentle, industrious savages, living in a primitive condition, absolutely untouched by the white man's civilization, and even ignorant of his existence.

Recent researches made by a party of German scientists has brought to light these unknown tribes, whose home is in the valley of the Xingu, one of the tributaries of the Amazon. It is stated that each of nine tribes visited speaks a different language, not more than one of which has any words to express the abstract qualities, virtue, vice, etc., of which things the people themselves have no distinct idea.

"Much more that is interesting might be related of these simple Indians. Enough, however, has been said to show that the way is open for whomsoever will to carry the news of the God who is our Father, and his Son, who is our Brother, and of a salvation that is free, to these brothers of ours who live on the shores of the Xingu. Who among American students who have volunteered for foreign work will enter on this field?"

FIELDS WHITE FOR HARVEST IN BRAZIL.

A remarkable incident at Rio Feio, in Brazil, was noted last June by the Rev. D. C. McLaren. He preached several times to large congregations, and among those who assisted regularly at the services was a man who had bought a Bible in Rio de Janeiro twenty-five years ago. He took it home, and far from any preacher or believer, had read it in his family for years, and accepted the truth, not knowing it was what "we Protestants" taught. He did not attend the first preaching, but by the time Mr. McLaren went up there, he had discovered that the doctrines of the book were being publicly taught, and he came with his family to identify himself with them. Mr. McLaren says he has rarely met among the people here so spiritually-minded a man.

Another illustration comes from Guarapuava, a town in the province of Parana, which lies to the south of Sao Paulo. Ten years ago a colporteur in

his journeyings penetrated to this place with a cargo of Bibles and Testaments, but he met with no success in disposing of them. A merchant in the town, seeing that they were very cheap, finally took them, thinking that he would make money by selling them. When his customers came in, he would open the Bible and read a little to show them that the books were good, and also recommended them as being very cheap. He sold them for three or four times as much as they had cost him. In this way they were scattered through that region.

Five years later Rev. Robert Lemington was making a pioneer evangelistic journey through the province, and many persons in Guarapuava came to hear him preach, and among them this merchant, not from any interest in the gospel, but with the intention of amusing himself at the expense of the preacher.

An occasional visit was made to the place by colporteurs and ministers, and more Bibles were scattered among the people, and finally, some months ago, the merchant himself became really interested. He shut up his store on Sunday, and began to spend the day in reading the Scriptures privately, and to those who could not read for themselves. He also formed a reading club in the town to encourage the reading of evangelical books.

In April, 1888, the Rev. G. A. Landes spent thirteen days in Guarapuava, and found more than seventy persons desirous of making a profession of faith in Christ as their Saviour. He received fifty-three of them into the church, and left as many more studying the Scriptures and looking forward to his next visit as the time of making a similar confession.

So the work widens and deepens in this vast empire, and the cry comes up from every side where the harvests are whitening, "More laborers, more laborers!"—*The Missionary*.

THE BEIRUT PRESS.

BY REV. JAMES S. DENNIS, D.D.

The outlook of the press seems at first sight to be that of a wide-awake and enterprising publishing house, as we greet its manager, Rev. Samuel Jessup, in his busy office, and step into the salesrooms and see the boxes being packed for shipment, and go through the establishment and hear the hum of its presses as they strike off the sheets. Here are the headquarters for the work done in Arabic by five noble divisions of Christ's army: the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, the American Tract Society, the Religious Tract Society of London, the American Bible Society, and the British and Foreign Bible Society. What a splendid backing for a missionary press which prints in a language which is the only medium of reaching nearly 50,000,000 of our race! Let us stop before these clattering presses as they toss off their great sheets of printed matter. Here is the splendid new edition of the first font reference Bible; here is Dr. Eddy's Commentary on the New Testament, of which the Gospel of Matthew is now printed; here is the second volume of the work on Systematic Theology, just issued last June; here is the weekly *Nesheret*, and a large variety of books and tracts which go to make up the 350 different publications on the press

catalogue. No presses can work like this without copy, and we shall have to follow the proof-sheets back to the studies of the brain-toiling missionaries who feed these devouring machines with the intellectual pabulum they require. Twenty millions of pages rolled off these presses last year. If we should place them lengthwise in a continuous line, they would make a pathway of Arabic literature from the Atlantic to the Pacific right across this continent. If we did the same thing with the total number of pages printed since the mission press was established, they would girdle the earth twice around at the equator. More than half of the pages printed last year were Scriptures. The time is soon coming (1890) when we shall celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the issue of the Arabic Bible. When Dr. Eli Smith arrived in Beirut, in 1827, what would he have said of that outlook which to-day is sober fact? The Arabic Bible will celebrate its twenty-fifth birthday with the confidence of serene triumph and with a song of sublime prophecy. The Christian literature in the Arabic language which is clustering around it and growing out of it will join in choral accompaniment until the Orient rings with the melody. Perhaps our "outlook" may be thought too fanciful and ideal, but let us wait and and work and pray. Hitherto it is the facts rather than the faith which have taken the lead. What an outlook of spiritual enlightenment and intellectual guidance and moral impulse, and heaven-sent consolation spreads out before us as our thoughts follow the 21,400 copies of the Scriptures which left the press last year.—*The Church at Home and Abroad*.

BIBLE WORK IN THE LEVANT.

Taking the position that the highest development of character is built up on a personal knowledge of the Bible, it is held to be a prime essential that the Scriptures should be in the hands of every man, woman, and child; should be not merely listened to from the pulpit, but read and studied in the home.

In the countries occupied by American missions in the Levant this fundamental work is done by the American Bible Society, and has three departments: Translation, Publication, and Distribution. To the former the best of scholarship is summoned, resulting in versions unexcelled for critical accuracy and fluency of idiom. There are: the Arabic, prepared at Beyroot, but reaching to the farthest bounds of Africa and Asia; the Turkish, Armenian, and Bulgarian, at Constantinople; the Syriac, at Oroomiah; the Azerbaijan-Turkish and Ararat Dialect of the Armenian, chiefly at Tiflis; the Persian, originally the work of Henry Martyn, now revised and much improved; the Koordish Testament, prepared by a Koordish-Armenian pastor in the valley of the Euphrates. In this work America and England have joined hands, now dividing, now sharing; each desirous of the one end—to reach every man in his own tongue with the story of the cross and the resurrection.

Then comes publication. The needs of every class are carefully studied. The peasant of the Nile Valley has his Testament in type especially suited to the eyes blurred and almost blinded with ophthalmia.

The inquiring Bulgarian, rendered half skeptical by the statement of his priest that the Protestants have wandered far from the venerated Slavic, has a Testament with both ancient and modern versions in parallel columns, that he may see for himself. On the shelves at the Bible House in Constantinople are the Scriptures in more than thirty languages and four hundred styles of printing and binding, that no one, whether he be officer of the sultan's household, or villager on the mountains of Koordistan, may say, "There is no Bible for me."

Thus far the preparation. Then comes the direct work of distribution. Over one hundred colporteurs are employed by the American Bible Society, but every teacher, pastor, and missionary is an assistant. These men aim to reach every reader in every city, town, village, and hamlet with the offer of the Bible. The distribution is not, however, gratuitous. A price is set upon every book, often far below its real cost, so as to bring it within the reach of the poorest, and that price is demanded and received from all. Except in special and rare cases, not a Bible or Testament, not even a Gospel, is given away. This is not because American Christians are unwilling to give, but because, in the experience of all, free distribution of the sacred books cuts at the very roots of that self-respect and sense of the Bible's worth, without which there can be no strong Christian character developed. It is also never forced on the attention of any. Cordially, earnestly, kindly, it is offered; but he who takes it must do so of his own will, under no external pressure. Undoubtedly such pressure might be used as to greatly increase the sales. Sometimes it has been used, but always with loss rather than gain.

A half century of experience has shown that as a rule, in the Levant, the best results are reached from planting the Bible in individual hearts, rather than by sowing it broadcast.—*Rev. Edwin M. Bliss, in the Missionary Review.*

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA, NOV. 3, 1888.

One embarrassment attending the colporteur work in Japan is due to the fact that any kind of trade has always been considered as degrading here. Persons engaged in trade are looked upon as beneath ordinary laborers, and next in rank to coolies or beggars. As the result of this, the business of the country is mostly in the hands of unscrupulous persons, with no reputation to gain or lose, and is conducted in a very loose and unsatisfactory way. There are but few merchants who appear to have a high sense of honor and a fixed price for their goods. The price demanded is usually adjusted to the supposed ability of the purchaser, or the present need of money on the part of the seller. No foreign firms will trust the Japanese in business transactions, and every large establishment in Yokohama employs the Chinese to handle the money and watch for fraud.

Bible-selling is also a kind of trade; and men who peddle Scriptures are generally classed with hucksters of all sorts. Those who engage in this business are usually without other means of support, and have no experience in our work, or much idea of what we expect of them. They naturally adopt the usual

methods of trade, and there is no end of trouble in teaching them to keep their accounts properly and deal honorably with all. It is a new departure in business to adhere strictly to the price marked in a book, and we have detected some of the men putting in a new price on top of ours. It does not follow from a man's joining a church in Japan, that he understands the art of selling Bibles after the methods in vogue at home. It is a matter of fact that Bibles are being sold in Tokio and Osaka constantly at less than our retail prices. One firm even advertises them at about *twenty per cent.* less than the catalogue rate. Where they can procure them and by what means is more than I can tell. Of course they refuse to let us know the process. H. LOOMIS.

A SOUVENIR OF 1888.

• Among the beautiful incidents of the late missionary conference, and the various ecclesiastical councils which were held in London, was a souvenir presented to these gatherings by the British and Foreign Bible Society. It was entitled, "A Souvenir of 1888." It was neatly bound and beautifully printed, and embraced perhaps fifty pages. It contained one sentence only—one, but that the most remarkable, the most pregnant of meaning, and the most blessed that has ever been framed into human language and made known to men. It was this: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life,"—one sentence, *but it was printed in two hundred and sixty-seven languages*—the languages in which the British and Foreign Bible Society has given the whole or parts of the word of God to the nations of mankind in their own tongue. No greater tribute could have been laid before the missionary conference as signifying the value of missionary labor. Who but missionaries have translated the word of God into these languages? Who were the patient toilers who even framed and formulated some of the simple languages which only existed before in spoken form? Who shall sum up the aggregate years of labor which have been spent in this blessed work?

If nothing else had been accomplished in the work of missions, if there were no other monuments than the stereotyped plates of the British and Foreign Bible Society, one might consider the outlay that has been made a valuable and fruitful one for the cause of truth. This is a greater blessing in its scope than the gift of tongues at Pentecost. Those whose utterances at that time were a surprise even to themselves could only speak as individual men, and the languages in which they spoke were perhaps but few compared with this array; and whereas their gifts perished with them, here is a permanent record of the word of God in all these languages. Here are the media through which to reach generation after generation with the knowledge of salvation. It is difficult, nay, it is impossible, to form any estimate of the significance of the little volume, the "Souvenir of 1888;" but whoever sits down to inspect its beautiful types and strange alphabets, and tries to take in its full meaning, will rise from the perusal with thanksgiving to God for what he hath wrought.—*The Church at Home and Abroad.*

"TO THAT BOOK WE CLING."

A correspondent of *Woman's Work for Woman*, writing to that journal from India, says:

The other day, when speaking here to a group of countrywomen, a respectable-looking man on horseback, when he had to pass us, stopped, and after he had heard me a little while said: "These women do not understand the real meaning of your words, and the importance of the subject, because they worship idols." He then pointed to a certain place on the road, and said: "There, some years ago, you gave a book—the New Testament—to a man from our village. That book we read, and from that book we learn all that we ought to know, and *to the teaching of that book we cling.*"

DOMESTIC DEPARTMENT.

EXTRACTS FROM MONTHLY REPORTS OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS.

CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA.—I preached in Yuba City on Sunday, the 11th, and at Marysville, where I took the largest collection ever taken in that place. I made many calls during the week among business men; was at Chico on the 18th; preached in the Presbyterian Church; addressed the Methodist Episcopal Sabbath School, and attended the anniversary of the Butte County branch of the California Bible Society, at night, in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, where addresses were delivered by Rev. T. M. Woodward of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. Edward Graham of the Presbyterian Church (president of this branch society), and your District Superintendent. The night was unpropitious, and yet the congregation was fair and the collection good.

The following is a summary of the labors of four county agents: Families visited, 3,188; found destitute, 422; supplied, 184; individuals supplied, 239; volumes sold, 219—valued at \$110 51; volumes given, 348—valued at \$57 05. Twenty-five ships were visited and fifty-two sailors were supplied. The Scriptures were distributed in ten languages.

GEORGIA.—The first Sunday of the month I spent in La Grange. The anniversary of the Troup County Bible Society was held in the Methodist Church, at night. Addresses were delivered by Mr. Chas. Cox, Dr. Bradfield, and the president, Mr. Johnston. There was a good congregation present, and the exercises were pleasant and profitable.

The month's labors closed at Greensboro', so far as auxiliary work was concerned. The meeting, held in the Methodist Church on Sunday night, seemed to awaken considerable interest. Addresses were delivered by Rev. F. H. Joey, pastor of the Baptist Church, and the District Superintendent.

ILLINOIS.—De Kalb County Society held its annual meeting at Sycamore, Nov. 28th. The reports showed increasing interest in the county at large, and the society made a donation of \$50 to the cause.

Du Page County auxiliary held its forty-eighth anniversary in the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Turner

Junction, on the afternoon and evening of Nov. 13th. Different parts of the county were represented, and a growing interest was indicated by the reports and discussions. A stirring address was made in the evening by Rev. Charles A. Blanchard, president of Wheaton College, and remarks were made by the Superintendent. A donation of \$150 was made to the Parent Society.

Morgan County Society held another of its popular and profitable Bible anniversaries in two of the Jacksonville churches, on Sabbath evening, Nov. 4th. Almost the whole city (so far as churches were concerned) came together to listen to clergymen and laymen, who discussed the Bible cause in its various aspects in a very able and interesting style. These anniversaries have become quite popular and profitable in many ways. This auxiliary repeats its donation of last year of \$450 to the Parent Society.

The month of November was a very busy one with your Superintendent, taking him from home twenty-five days. Over two thousand miles were traversed in visiting some twenty auxiliaries and branch societies.

INDIANA.—I spent Sabbath, Nov. 4th, with the Shelby County Bible Society, centering at Shelbyville. This society is in the hands of ladies, and is one of the best managed auxiliaries in the State.

Anniversaries were held also with the Howard, Carroll, and Vermillion County Societies; and I attended the annual meetings of the Attica and Vicinity and Cass County Societies.

IOWA.—It has been my privilege during the month of November to attend anniversary meetings at the following places: Jefferson, Green County; Algona, Kossuth County; Marshalltown, Marshall County; Grand Junction, Green County, and Cedar Rapids. At Algona the meeting was largely attended, and, I think, with good results. In Marshalltown only a part of the churches in the city united in the meeting; the church, however, was crowded, and all things considered the meeting was a success. In Albion and Grand Junction we had good meetings with fair results.

At my request Cedar Rapids Society held the public meetings this year in advance of the annual offerings of the various churches, hoping that, through the influence of the addresses given and the inspiration of the gatherings of the people, larger results would be seen. The meetings were held last Sabbath evening—on the east side in the First Presbyterian Church, which was filled with an interested congregation, and on the west side in the First United Presbyterian Church, where a crowded house listened to earnest words in the interests of the Bible cause.

MICHIGAN AND WISCONSIN.—It has been the privilege of your Superintendent to visit nineteen Bible societies during the month, and to address fifteen public meetings in the interests of the Bible cause.

The annual meetings for the month have been upon the whole unusually encouraging. Dodge County Bible Society held a very interesting meeting. Its president, Rev. Silas Hawley, an old and honored minister of the Presbyterian Church, and to whom the Bible society is much indebted for his interest and zeal, has been called from labor to reward.

The Dodgeville Welsh Society has done its usual

good deed of donating nearly a hundred dollars to the general work of the American Bible Society.

The second Sunday found me at Green Bay, for the anniversary of Brown County Society. I spoke at Fort Howard in the morning, and in the evening addressed the union services of the Methodist, Baptist, and Congregational Churches in the Congregational Church. The meeting was the most encouraging held for years.

The third Sunday I was with Emmet County Bible Society, centering at Petoskey, near the Straits of Mackinaw. This society is only two years old, but is one of the most efficient in the State. I spoke in the morning at the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the afternoon at the German Church, and in the evening addressed an enthusiastic union meeting, from which many went away unable to gain admission.

The fourth Sunday was spent at Cadillac, in the lumber regions of Northern Michigan, it being the annual meeting of the Wexford County Bible Society. The meeting was held in the evening, in one of the largest and finest halls in the place, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and Methodists uniting. The audience was large, and was addressed by Rev. Mr. Lamb, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, and by your Superintendent. The collection was more than double any previous offering.

MINNESOTA AND DAKOTA.—I attended the annual meeting of the Dakota County Bible Society, held in the Methodist Episcopal Church on the second Sabbath evening in the month. Rev. Mr. Smith and your Superintendent addressed the meeting, and it was one of profit.

The anniversary of the Waseca County Bible Society was held on the third Sabbath evening, in the Methodist Episcopal Church of Waseca. This was a union meeting, well attended. The ministers present participated in the exercises of the evening.

The last Sunday of the month was spent at Fari-bault. In the morning I preached in the First Congregational Church, and in the evening attended the annual meeting of the Rice County Bible Society, held in the same place. The Methodist Episcopal, German Methodist Episcopal, Baptist, and Congregational Churches united on this occasion, and the large church was filled. Short addresses were delivered by the various pastors, the president of the society, and your Superintendent.

MISSOURI.—The visits of the Superintendent to several sections of the State, during the past month, confirm him in the conviction of the necessity of the combined effort of all the churches co-operating with the Bible Society. Such effort is demanded as well for the good of the various churches as for the enlarged usefulness of the Society itself.

Leading ministers and laymen in such important centres as Palmyra, Hannibal, Kirksville, St. Louis, and Kansas City have met the Superintendent in personal consultation, during the past month, and given him assurances of renewed and increased interest in the work, and of their intention heartily to assist in making the Society a more efficient factor in the evangelization of the commonwealth.

NEBRASKA, COLORADO, AND WYOMING.—During this month I have been absent from home twenty-

eight days. I have travelled 3,510 miles. My work has been in both Nebraska and Colorado, in the latter State on both sides of the great continental divide.

I spent the first Sunday of the month at York, Neb. The York County Bible Society has always been one of the best working societies in the State. One who has done a large amount of voluntary Bible work in this auxiliary has passed to his reward. It is hard to realize, in the older communities of our land, how in this new country one Christian worker is missed.

The second Sunday of the month I spent in the city of Denver, speaking in two of the churches.

The third Sunday I was at Montrose, on the Pacific slope of the Rocky Mountains. It was my first visit to this town. Montrose is situated in the Uncompahgre Valley, and six years ago was the camping-ground of the Ute Indians. Now it is a flourishing village, with churches and schoolhouses. The Christian people raised over sixty dollars, and with a grant from the Parent Society established an auxiliary Bible society which gives promise of good work. The credit for this can all be laid at the door of one faithful pastor and his family. How much good may be done in a community if there be but one or two determined and devout people to push a good work!

NEW YORK.—In November I attended the anniversary of Fulton and Hamilton County auxiliary, held in the Presbyterian Church at Johnstown, on the 13th, where I gave a public address in the evening before a very good audience. And while in Fulton County I spoke for our cause on the Sabbath, in the Johnstown Presbyterian and the Gloversville Congregational Churches.

I made an address at the seventieth anniversary of Newburgh Bible Society, at Newburgh, on Thanksgiving evening, and found some warm friends of the Bible cause, who greeted me cordially.

I visited Essex County and saw some of the officers of the Essex County auxiliary, and I spoke on Sunday morning in the Congregational Church at Elizabethtown, where a good collection was taken. In the evening I spoke again before a union audience, composed of three churches of the village.

NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA.—In the first week of this month I attended the annual meeting of the South Carolina Bible Association, which was organized a year ago and met again in Columbia, the capital of the State. The discussions were practical and earnest, evincing a lively interest in the work and an intelligent appreciation of it on the part of those present. The topics which received chief attention and consideration were three: (1) The relation of auxiliaries to the Parent Society. The result of this discussion was the adoption of a resolution recommending all the auxiliaries in the State to make a donation annually to the Parent Society of an amount equal to at least one-fourth of their receipts; (2) The relation of the churches to the American Bible Society. This discussion issued in the appointment of a committee who shall address a communication to the several denominational bodies controlling the Protestant Churches of the State, urging the observance by all the churches of a Bible-day each year, when addresses shall be made upon the Bible cause and collections raised for it, the funds to be sent directly to the Dis-

trict Superintendent; and (3) The relation of Sabbath schools to the Bible work. On this matter, too, a committee was appointed to call the attention of the auxiliaries and the Sabbath schools of the State to the propriety of organizing Bible societies in these schools.

OHIO.—Early in this month my circular—prepared in October for circulation in the district, calling for more liberal support of the Bible cause and asking for a collection from each church and Sunday school—was printed and ready for distribution.

The Fostoria and Vicinity auxiliary, after a very full and interesting anniversary, unanimously selected the president of the auxiliary, Prof. W. L. Jackson, for the soliciting committee. This selection places one in every way competent, and in a very influential position, in charge of the work. It was understood that he would personally present the cause in each of the churches in Fostoria, and assure the same work in the churches in the five townships associated in the auxiliary.

As about twelve societies are each month on the list in this State for holding their annual meetings, I am devoting much energy to securing the attention of all of the officers to this work before the holding of the meetings. In this way I hope to have each one fully consider it. Then, if I am able to give sufficient attention to follow up and secure the action planned at the anniversaries, we may hope for good results. It will be seen that my method of work will reach the whole State through the officers in a year. If the officers move as called upon, good results may be expected, for the people always respond well to this cause when the way is wisely opened for them to give.

OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, AND MONTANA.—I was at Dallas, in Polk County, Ore., on the first Sabbath in the month, and preached at the Methodist Episcopal Church in the morning. A union Bible meeting was held at the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the evening, and was addressed by Rev. Mr. Kelsay and your District Superintendent.

The second Sabbath was given to the work in Oregon City, in Clackamas County, Ore. I held service at the Congregational Church in the morning, and in the evening union services were held in the same church. Addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Janney, Rev. Mr. Ingles, Rev. G. F. West, and your District Superintendent.

Goldendale, in Klikitat County, W. T., was the next place visited. Here the morning and evening services were held in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and collections taken for the Bible cause. Rev. L. J. Whitcomb and your District Superintendent addressed the evening meeting. All the business part of Goldendale was destroyed by fire last April, and two churches were also burned. The depository, too, was destroyed, and books to the value of \$84 45 were lost. Great energy and liberality have been shown by the people of Goldendale in rebuilding their churches, and in giving more largely to the Bible cause.

THE Lord is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge.—*Psalm xciv. 22.*

FULTON AND HAMILTON COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY, N. Y.

The seventy-first annual meeting of this venerable society was held with the Presbyterian Church of Johnstown, November 13th. The board of managers convened at 11 A. M. Hon. D. B. Judson, the president, took the chair and called for the various reports. Rev. J. A. Williamson, the corresponding secretary, stated that he had maintained, during the year, an active correspondence with the various depositaries. The treasurer, Mr. Cyrus Stewart, presented an admirable report, in which he stated the receipts of the year to be, \$718 31; disbursements, \$308 24; remaining in the treasury, \$333 35. This report was immediately audited and adopted. Reports were then read from depositaries in Kingsboro, Gloversville, Johnstown, Broadalbin, Ephratah, and Northville, after which the board of managers adjourned.

At two o'clock in the afternoon the society convened. Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Reeves. After the transaction of some business the society proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year. The following subject was announced for discussion: "The New Testament foreshadowed in the Old." Rev. J. A. Williamson made a brief address on the subject, after which remarks were made by Dr. Reeves, Rev. Messrs. Park and Rankin, Isaac V. Place, and D. B. Judson. The debate was very animated and interesting.

Mrs. D. M. Reeves of Johnstown, Mrs. McLaren of Kingsboro, Miss A. Van Arnan of Northville, and Rev. W. E. Park of Gloversville, were made life members of the Parent Society.

The evening meeting was held at seven o'clock, in the audience room of the church. The records of the day's proceedings having been read by the recording secretary, selections of Scripture were read by the new president, Mr. J. H. Foote, and prayer was offered by Rev. P. Felts of Johnstown. The Rev. D. Boyd of Oneonta, District Superintendent of the American Bible Society for New York State, then delivered a sensible, concise, and excellent address upon the character and work of the Bible Society. The benediction was then pronounced, and the society adjourned to meet in Mayfield, in October, 1889.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF A SUNDAY SCHOOL, CHARLESTON, S. C.

In several portions of our country, very great interest has been manifested of late in calling the attention of Sabbath school children to the work of the American Bible Society. This is especially true of Vermont, Arkansas, and Alabama. We take great pleasure in presenting the account of a new movement in Charleston, which we heartily commend to the prayerful consideration of all our friends. We should rejoice to hear that similar societies had been organized in all parts of the Union. It is indeed of the utmost importance that the rising generation should be taught to take an active and intelligent interest in the great work of circulating the Holy Scriptures in all lands:

The first annual report of the Bible society of the Sunday school of the First Presbyterian Church, Charleston, S. C., was read at the celebration of the anniversary, Sunday, Oct. 28th, 1888.

On Sunday, Oct. 2d, 1887, the Bible society of the Sunday school of the First Presbyterian Church, Charleston, S. C., was organized as a branch of the Bible society of Charleston, having been formed, as expressed in its constitution, "for the purpose of promoting the circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment; and this to be accomplished by co-operating with the Bible society of Charleston in distributing its books, contributing to its funds, and endeavoring to increase its membership."

The contribution of any sum, however small, constitutes the only condition of membership in this society for one year. Its membership is practically co-extensive with that of the Sunday school, numbering about 158.

The work done during the past year, the first of its existence, has been almost entirely limited to the collection of funds for the Parent Society. With its growth in years, however, will be its growth in usefulness, and at its next anniversary, no doubt, the annual report will show work done in disseminating the Scriptures, and also in adding to the membership of the Charleston County society. The amount contributed to that society during the past year was \$43 50. The management of the affairs of the society is conducted by an executive committee, consisting of the officers and one member from each of the Sunday school classes. The latter are also the collectors for their respective classes. Once a month meetings of the executive committee have been held, and reports have been received from the collectors, and the funds they collected turned over to the treasurer. During the ensuing year it is proposed to render these meetings more interesting and attractive, as opportunities of studying Bible society work in all parts of the world. Every three months a short address has been made in reference to the work, and any event of interest in connection with it that may have occurred in the interim, has been noted.

The society will send a delegate to represent it at the meeting of the State Bible Association, to be held in Columbia, on the 7th and 8th of November. It is hoped that this may lead to the formation of similar organizations throughout the State. On the present occasion, the first anniversary of the society, it was thought best to invite all the Sunday schools of the city to join us in the celebration, hoping that the majority of them would be present, representatively at least, and thereby a wide-spread interest might be awakened in the cause, suggesting the formation of similar societies in other Sunday schools.

In view of the success that has attended this enterprise during the first year of its existence, our hearts are filled with gratitude to God, and we are encouraged to go on with the work, having full assurance of the divine blessing upon it. "For as the rain cometh down and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return

unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Officers of the society: president, John Forrest, M.D.; secretary, W. Dewar Gordon; treasurer, James D. Harvey.

VERMONT BIBLE SOCIETY.

EXTRACTS FROM THE SEVENTY-SIXTH REPORT.

During the year we have canvassed thirty towns in Windham and Windsor Counties, nine more than the previous year. Last autumn Rev. A. S. Chase canvassed Athens and Brookline, and Deacon W. I. Byington and Rev. D. F. Palmer canvassed, together, Dover, Jamaica, Londonderry, Stratton, Townshend, Wardsboro, and Windham. Rev. A. Porter completed the canvass of Grafton, commenced the year previous, and the Rev. A. Stevens, D.D., has nearly completed the canvass of Westminster. All of the other towns in the county were canvassed last year except Brattleboro. So little encouragement has been given the society by the residents of that town, and so little assistance rendered in the past few years, that it was not thought best to canvass it at present. Only ten destitute families were found in the above-named towns where fifty-five were found in the previous canvass.

Later in the year, Deacon W. I. Byington canvassed, alone, Baltimore, Norwich, Hartford, Hartland, and Royalton. Rev. D. F. Palmer canvassed, alone, Bethel, Sharon, and Bridgewater, and together, they canvassed Andover, Barnard, Ludlow, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, Rochester, Stockbridge, Weston, and West Windsor. Mrs. D. S. Townsend canvassed Windsor and Woodstock. The remainder of the county will be completed before winter.

In the twenty towns named in Windsor County 190 families were found without a Bible, and fifty-four of that number were supplied. In the previous canvass of the same towns 309 families were found destitute, and 128 of those families were supplied. In the thirty towns canvassed in these two counties 200 families were found destitute, and fifty-four of that number were supplied. Seventy-three illiterate families were found in Windsor County.

Sunday School Work.—Many of the children and youth in our Sunday schools have been prompted by a Christian spirit to think of, and do for those more needy than themselves. Their interest in the plan of previous years, to earn and give their pennies to be used in buying Bibles for the destitute, still continues, and in many instances increases. During the year just closed \$978 80 have been contributed by members of Sunday schools. This exceeds the amount contributed the previous year by \$174 92. Of this amount \$410 50 were given in response to the call of 1887, and \$568 30 since September 1st, on the call of this year. But better than the money is the benevolent spirit that is being developed in the minds and hearts of the young. From the children's contributions the previous year \$100 were sent to New York, to be used in purchasing Bibles for the colored people of Louisiana, and the same amount was given to Bible work in Bohemia, under the direction of Rev. A. W. Clark, a native of Vermont.

The last named sum bought, at Christmas time, over thirteen hundred Bibles and Testaments for the poor, mostly children. Many of that number might never have owned a Bible had it not been for our gifts. Bohemia has been remembered to the same extent this year, and the same amount has been devoted to purchasing Bibles for the colored pupils connected with the schools under the care of the Freedmen's Aid Society. The "addition" to the Soldiers' Home is soon to be supplied from this fund, as well as the Old Ladies' Home at Burlington, and the keeping up the necessary supply in all our public institutions.

INCIDENTS OF BIBLE COLPORTAGE.

A colporteur in Nebraska relates the following incident:

Seeing one day a house some distance from the road, he tied his horse at the gate, and taking some books in a basket went with them through the field. The woman of the house he saw standing by the open door. Seeing him she shut the door with a slam, as though she would have said: "Don't come here, we do not want peddlers." Of course no good colporteur would turn back on such a hint. He went on and knocked at the door, but no one bade him enter; he knocked again and again, knowing that the woman was in the house, and went to the back door and knocked. No response; here again he knocked. This put his perseverance somewhat to the test. He reasoned: "She may not want to see me, but it is my duty to see her." He knocked again, then waiting in vain for a response, he opened the door. The woman stood in the middle of the floor; when she saw him enter she began wildly to gesticulate, and to tell him (as he supposed) to go away. She was a Swede, and he could not tell what she said. It was plain enough what she wanted, and her face was almost savage in its intensity. He, however, paid no outward attention to her demonstrations, but taking a book from his basket he said, quietly, "Biblia." She was transformed in a moment. She called the men from the field; the son could speak English. He was urged to remain to dinner, and always to stop when he should be passing that way. When they found he was a colporteur of the Bible Society, they could not do enough for him. He was anxious to know the secret of their interest, and when asked how they knew about the Bible Society and its work, they brought out the Bibles given them at Castle Garden, when they came to this country strangers. Those Bibles had been a great comfort to them, and this was the first opportunity they had had of showing their gratitude.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LETTER OF A COLPORTEUR.

"I am doing work that was very much needed. The other day I found a family that had lived nineteen years without a Bible, or any portion thereof, in their possession. I succeeded in selling that family a Bible and a number of Testaments. For a while I thought I should have to leave them without the Scriptures. The man seemed determined not to buy, and as it was indifference and not poverty, I did not feel at liberty to give them a copy. I was about leaving when the woman began to cry. At last she

got her voice, and she said, 'John, it is heathenish to live in this way. Here we have lived nineteen years, raised seven children and buried one, and none of them have ever seen a Bible in their father's house.' This seemed to touch the man, and he bought a Bible and a number of Testaments. On the 22d, I found four families before ten o'clock in the morning, that were without Bibles; three of those families had a number of children in them. I sold each of these families a Bible. Between the 18th and 23d, I supplied twenty-six families that had no Bible, not even a portion of one under their roof."

Another colporteur writes:

"Five years ago I canvassed this county. I called one day on a German family; they had no Bible. I had no copy of the German Scriptures with me. I think they would have purchased a Bible if I had had a German copy. I called on that same family again a few days ago. They had been prosperous, and had added largely to their home. They had expended \$500 on a homestead in Kansas, but had bought no Bible. I had a German copy with me this time, and they bought it." G. W. W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE TONGUES OF MANY NATIONS.

"Thus saith the Lord of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you."—*Zechariah* viii. 23.

"If ever literal fulfillment be required of us in our argument, it often can be furnished, as it may be here. Zechariah's expression, 'ten men out of all languages of the nations,' means a great and indefinite number of men of different languages, because so is the phrase 'ten' used in the old Pentateuch idiom, which this prophet likes to employ. (See Gen. xxxi. 7. Lev. xxvi. 26. Num. xiv. 22.) The actual fact is, that to find how many languages there are now in the world which have written characters, we could not have recourse to translations of any great author among the 'nations,' or Gentiles, whether ancient or modern. Asia wants no Western poet or sage. Africa would find such unintelligible. In our day Shakspeare is read from the Sandwich Islands to the Danube, but it cannot be ferried across that river if the Turk be there. We must go to the rooms of a Bible society, and nowhere else, to meet with the languages of every family of man, as the Christian church uses her modern gift of tongues to make known the words of Micah and of Isaiah and of Zechariah to men of every race and clime, from the Greenland Esquimaux to the African Negro. What is this but the wonderful fulfillment of prophecy? because from the Jew have the nations of the world heard that word of God which alone can bring them to unite and rejoice in one brotherhood, and in hearing one message."—*From "Jesus Christ in the Old Testament, or the Great Argument," by W. H. Thomson, M.D.*

KIND WORDS FROM AN OLD FRIEND.

"Once more I have the pleasure of thanking you for the regular monthly receipt of the *Bible Society Record*, and of contributing my mite to help scatter the precious seed of the word of life. If we observe the signs of the times, it is evident that the promise is in its incipency that the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the great deep. It is amazing beyond conception (to me, at least), the vast numbers of Bibles and Testaments that are being scattered over foreign countries. If it were not for the *Record*, I should be destitute of this information. Next to the Bible, the *Record* is the most precious in my estimation. I am truly glad that I can contribute a little to spread the gospel, as my day of probation is very near an end; for I shall be eighty years of age if I live till next January. You must perceive by my irregular manner of writing that it is difficult for me to write at all, for I cannot steadily follow the lines marked on the paper. Inclosed please find a postal order for five dollars, and continue the *Record*. I am a confirmed invalid, with sight and hearing almost gone; but I have many kind acquaintances whom I highly value, especially those who contributed their money to make me a life member of the American Bible Society."

THE promises are wells of comfort to the church, and prayer and the means of grace are as vessels to draw the water out of these wells. To expect blessings and not to seek diligently for them, is as foolish as if a farmer were to neglect ploughing or sowing his lands, and yet to look for a harvest in them.—*Abp. Secker*.

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 17, 1889.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The stated meeting of the Board of Managers was held at the Bible House, on Thursday, January 3d, 1889, the Hon. Enoch L. Fancher, LL.D., President, in the chair.

The religious exercises were conducted by the Rev. Dr. J. E. Rankin.

Grants of books were made for gratuitous distribution to the value of about \$7,743, including grants to the American Missionary Association, to the American Seamen's Friend Society, to the American Board for Micronesia, and also to the Hawaiian Evangelization Association; and consignments to the Society's Mexican, Brazil, and La Plata Agencies.

Funds were also granted to the amount of \$1,200, of which the sum of \$1,000 is for the use of the Russian Bible Society, and \$200 for the Italy Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The foreign correspondence of the month mentioned Mr. Bowen's return to Constantinople, Dec. 15th, from a long and hard tour in Asia Minor, and Dr. Bliss's proposal to start in January for Egypt; Mr. Whipple,

Nov. 8th, was about leaving Tabreez for Teheran; Mr. McKim, Dec. 29th, was leaving Havana for Baracoa, and Mr. Penzotti, Nov. 21st, was going from Lima to the south of Peru. Mr. Tallon, of Montevideo, sends the salutations of the South American Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Mr. Burt, of Florence, asks for a new appropriation for Bible work in Italy; and Mr. Doane, of Ponape, tells of the need at once of new supplies of Scriptures to meet the growing demand from both natives and foreigners.

The cash receipts in December were \$39,334 58.

Issues from the Bible House during the same month, 116,391 volumes; issues since April 1st, 1888, 746,764 volumes.

A Paper on the Power of the Printed Bible, written by one of the Secretaries of the American Bible Society, and read at the Centenary Missionary Conference in Exeter Hall, has been printed in full in pamphlet form, and a copy will be sent to any address by mail, on application at the Bible House.

Recent Accessions to the Library of the American Bible Society.

REPORT OF THE CENTENARY CONFERENCE ON THE PROTESTANT MISSIONS OF THE WORLD. Held in Exeter Hall, London, June 9th-19th, 1888. Edited by the Rev. James Johnston, Secretary of the Conference. Two volumes. London, 1888.

These two volumes, comprising nearly 1,200 closely printed octavo pages, are full of valuable and interesting essays and discussions on topics connected with modern missions. The London Conference will long be referred to as remarkable for the long list of delegates and members, the number of societies represented, and the comprehensiveness of its programme, no less than for the brotherly love, the hopefulness, and the zeal which characterized the assembly.

As the Conference was not convened to edit, or organize, or formulate opinions, its result embraces no platform or recommendation or concordat. Men came together from Christian lands and from the ends of the earth, looked each other in the face, broke bread in common from day to day, united in prayer and song, read extracts from carefully written papers on selected themes, talked as freely as the rigorous pressure of a five-minute rule would allow, and went to their homes conscious that their hearts had been all aglow and that it was good to be there. The multitudes were fed, and the fragments that remained have been gathered up and crowded into these volumes as a reminder of the feast and for distribution among the absentees. The editor has had no easy task, but however much one may regret the necessity laid on him to curtail almost every paper and speech, it is to be hoped that the omitted parts are of less intrinsic importance than those which he has retained. Occasional annotations, an elaborate index for each volume, and a "Missionary Bibliography" indicate editorial skill and add much to the usefulness of the work as a book of reference, while the low price at which it is offered to the American public should ensure for it a large circulation.

THE LIFE AND LETTERS OF SAMUEL WELLS WILLIAMS, LL.D., Missionary, Diplomatist, Sinologue. By his son, Frederick Wells Williams. New York and London. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1889.

We have here a well-told story of a life full of piety and good works, with a large flavor of romance and adventure. Before he attained his majority, and after a brief apprenticeship in the art of book-making, Mr. Williams went to Canton in 1833 to establish and superintend a mission press. The gates of the empire were shut against foreigners, whether

traders or missionaries, and in the eyes of the people he was only one of three hundred "foreign devils" permitted to live on a reservation of fifteen acres outside the walls of Canton, for whose good behavior a hong merchant was sponsor.

The patience, fidelity, and ability with which he discharged his duties as a missionary author and editor, mastering languages, compiling dictionaries, observing and recording facts, and managing a press in an office where a single font of type contained 25,000 characters, hardly any two of which were alike, gave him peculiar fitness for other forms of work no less important for the promotion of Christianity, and led eventually to his entering the service of the United States government as Interpreter and Secretary of Legation. This brought him into a position where he had to do with the negotiation of treaties with both China and Japan, at a time when there was not an American merchant residing in China who could read or write a single sentence in the language.

He always recalled with satisfaction the part he bore in securing the insertion in the treaty of Tientsin of a clause allowing the practice and profession of Christianity in China. The evening of his long life brought him abundant proof of the esteem in which he was held, and at the time of his death he occupied the honorable positions of professorship of Chinese in Yale College and the Presidency of the American Bible Society and of the American Oriental Society.

Dr. Williams held the pen of a ready writer, and the accumulated letters of half a century, preserved by personal friends, have given ample material for an extended biography, which his son has skillfully used in preparing a volume of deep interest and lasting value.

SAMUEL IRENÆUS PRIME. Autobiography and Memorials. Edited by his son, Wendell Prime. New York. A. D. F. Randolph & Co., 1888.

The portrait of Dr. Prime which greets one at the opening of this volume is a pleasant reminder of one who for a single year, from January, 1849, was Corresponding Secretary of the American Bible Society, and through his subsequent life was a frequent attendant on the stated meetings of the Board of Managers. His voice and pen were always at the service of the Society, of whose work he had a high estimate. His autobiographical notes give a good idea of the early training which preceded a life of eminent usefulness and versatility, and memorials by other hands show how great the regard felt for him by his contemporaries.

LES SAINTS ÉVANGILES. Traduction Nouvelle par Henri Lasserre. Publiée avec l'imprimatur de l'Archêvêché de Paris. 25th edition. Paris, 1887.

The annals of Bible circulation have rarely contained a more remarkable story than that relating to Henri Lasserre's French translation of the Holy Gospels. The first edition of it was printed in 1886, the *imprimatur* of the archbishop of Paris being dated on the 11th of November of that year. It is dedicated to the Queen of Heaven, the Most Holy Mary, Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lady of Lourdes, whose benediction it invokes. A copy sent to the Pope was acknowledged by his secretary, Cardinal Jacobini, who wrote by direction of the Holy Father, Dec. 4th, 1886, commending the work, expressing approval of the object indicated in the preface, and sending his holy blessing.

So great was the popular demand that twenty-five editions were issued in quick succession, making, perhaps, a hundred thousand copies which have gone into the homes of the French people; and then by request of many bishops and priests, a sumptuous edition was prepared, illustrated with engravings and photographs of superior excellence.

Lasserre's preface informs us that he had the whole work put in type twelve years before printing, and kept the type standing that he might correct successive and innumerable proofs; his aim being to express in the best possible French the exact shade of the original without addition and without loss, "just as with a thousand precautions one pours, from one vase into another, some precious liquid, fearful equally of losing a single drop and of mixing with it the smallest particle of extraneous matter."

But the strangest part of the story is that in December, 1887, a decree was issued by the "sacred congregation" of eminent cardinals at Rome, putting Lasserre's Gospels on the Index of forbidden books, and stigmatizing it as one "of degraded doctrine." The work has therefore been

withdrawn from circulation, and every one is forbidden to read or retain a copy under the penalties which the Roman Catholic Church imposes.

FIFTEENTH CENTURY BIBLES; a Study in Bibliography. By Wendell Prime. New York. Anson D. F. Randolph & Co., 1888.

The Gutenberg Bible was the first book ever printed with moveable type, and is said to be the "most splendid specimen of typography extant." A study in bibliography may well commence with the Bible, the history of which as a printed book has so much of interest from every point of view. Dr. Prime has collected a great deal of lore about early editions of the Bible in Latin and in the vernacular tongues of Europe, and the antique type and broad margins of his book are in harmony with the topics of which he writes.

Deceased Director.

Rev. George S. Hare, D.D., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Deceased Members.

Rev. Wheelock N. Harvey, Gildersleeve, Ct.
Rev. James D. Butler, New Bedford, Mass.
Cyril W. Sexton, Somers, Ct.
Mrs. George Prudden, New Haven, Ct.
Rev. Andrew M. Beveridge, D.D., Lansingsburgh, N. Y.
Rev. W. F. Farrington, Auburn, Me.
Rev. T. A. S. Adams, D.D., Jacksonville, Miss.
Rev. Peter D. Day, New Providence, N. J.
Rev. A. C. Pierce, Brookfield, Ct.
James L. Sherwood, Canandaigua, N. Y.
Rev. Rufus C. Clapp, Chestertown, N. Y.
Mrs. Augustin Averill, New York.
Hezekiah F. Rudd, Norwich, Ct.
Mrs. Hila E. S. Chatterton, Onslow, Iowa.
George Thompson, Rondout, N. Y.
Charles F. Maurice, Sing Sing, N. Y.
Rev. Wm. H. McGiffert, Kingston, N. Y.
Mrs. Austin Hazen, Northfield, Vt.
Rev. E. P. L. Elmer, Hudson, N. Y.
Mrs. Carry Wiggins, Paterson, N. J.

Summary of District Superintendents' Reports for the month of November, 1888.

Number of District Superintendents reporting.....	20
Auxiliaries, Branches, etc., visited.....	139
Anniversaries attended.....	59
New Societies and Committees formed.....	4
Sermons and Addresses delivered for the Bible cause.....	188
Letters sent.....	1,730
Miles travelled on official duty.....	25,622
Donations and subscriptions secured for Bible cause.....	\$2,661 89

Summary of Bible Distribution in November, by 60 Colporteurs and 16 County Agents reporting.

	Colporteurs.	Co. Ag'ts.
Days of service.....	1,173	384
Miles travelled.....	14,495	2,738
Families visited by them.....	16,218	10,019
Families found without a copy of Scriptures.....	2,858	1,507
Families supplied by sale or gift.....	1,899	887
Destitute individuals supplied in addition.....	843	330
Number of books sold.....	6,757	1,081
Value of books sold.....	\$2,666 30	\$483 68
Number of books distributed gratuitously.....	1,489	1,109
Value of books distributed gratuitously.....	\$369 35	\$240 30
Contributions received.....	133 15	484 32

Summary of 69 Annual Reports of Auxiliary Societies, received in December, 1888.

Receipts from sales in twelve months.....	\$3,377 53
Receipts from collections and donations.....	2,699 94
Paid American Bible Society on book account.....	3,499 20
Paid American Bible Society on donation account..	989 37
Expended on their own fields.....	718 53
Value of books donated.....	254 35
Value of stock on hand at date.....	7,217 09
No. of these auxiliaries reporting general operations	13
Collecting and distributing Agents employed.....	13
Families visited by them.....	1,881

Families found destitute.....	154	Destitute individuals supplied in addition.....	147
Destitute families supplied.....	129	Sabbath and other schools supplied.....	10

RECEIPTS IN DECEMBER, 1888.

		NEBRASKA.		Credited as Donation. on Account.	
LEGACIES.		Black Hills Conference, M. E. Ch....	\$14 00	Albion, Mich.....	\$15 23
Boon, Mrs. Lucretia R., late of Galesburg, Ill.....	\$10 00	Beatrice, First Pres. Ch.....	10 26	Adams Co., Neb.....	6 39
Clapp, Levi, late of Worcester, Mass.....	100 00	Nebraska Conference, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	2 00	Antelope Co., Neb.....	15 00
Kittle, Sophia, late of Hudson, Mich.....	90 00	West Nebraska Conference, M. E. Ch.....	1 90	Albany Co., N. Y.....	60 00
Lawrence, Elizabeth G., late of Amherst, N. H.....	25 00	NORTH CAROLINA.		Aiken Co., S. C.....	11 12
Lauden, James, late of Connersville, Ind.....	500 00	North Carolina Conference, M. E. Ch.....	16 00	Barnesville, Ga.....	8 00
Russell, Ellen R., late of Elizabeth, N. J.....	290 65	OHIO.		Buchanan Co., Iowa.....	45 00
Thomas, Owen H., late of Bangor, Wis.....	290 00	Ohio Conf., African Meth. Ep. Ch....	3 25	Brooklyn & Vicinity, Iowa.....	48 24
Townsend, Clarinda, late of Candanigua, N. Y.....	300 00	Ontario, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	5 00	Becker Co., Minn.....	16 88
Wells, James T., late of Temple Hill, Ky.....	1,000 00	North Ohio Conference, M. E. Ch....	23 22	Bay Co., Mich.....	19 80
	\$2,605 65	Rock Creek, Church of Christ Union Service.....	2 20	Branch Co., Mich.....	20 00
CHURCH COLLECTIONS.		PENNSYLVANIA.		Battle Creek, Mich.....	35 00
ALABAMA.		Buckhorn, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	2 00	Bergen Co., N. J.....	84 96
Collections through Rev. Z. A. Parker, Dist. Supt.....	\$137 15	RHODE ISLAND.		Broome Co., N. Y.....	24 81
ARKANSAS.		Providence, Pilgrim Cong. Ch.....	38 90	Bellevue Female, Ohio.....	17 25
Associate Ref. Synod of the South.....	13 10	TENNESSEE.		Brown Co., Wis.....	7 14
Ebenezer, Meth. Ep. Church.....	1 00	Memphis Conference, Meth. Ep. Ch....	26 35	Cotton Plant, Ark.....	16 00
CONNECTICUT.		Tennessee " " " ".....	7 85	Central, Ark.....	28 87
West Hartford, First Ch. of Christ....	9 50	Tennessee (Colored) Conf., M. E. Ch.....	5 00	Clear Creek Co., Col.....	28 59
DAKOTA.		TEXAS.		California.....	30 00
Bathgate, Pres. and Meth. Churches..	6 00	East Texas Conf., M. E. Ch. South....	2 00	Cherokee Co., Ga.....	6 47
Dakota Conference, Meth. Ep. Ch....	100 76	Ger'n Mission Conf., M. E. Ch. South	13 00	Colfax, Ill.....	32 26
DELAWARE.		North Texas " " " ".....	50 35	Chicago, Ill.....	532 91
Rockland, Meth. Ep. Church.....	2 00	Sequin, Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	5 50	Cass Co., Ind.....	39 19
FLORIDA.		Texas Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch. South....	5 35	Carroll Co., Ind.....	19 78
Altoona, S. S. of Meth. Ep. Ch. South.	75	West Texas Conf., M. E. Ch. South....	16 85	Carroll Co., Iowa.....	10 00
GEORGIA.		WEST VIRGINIA.		Cowley Co., Ks.....	4 94
Macon, African Meth. Ep. Ch.....	3 15	West Virginia Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch....	1 00	Cloud Co., Ks.....	61 10
IOWA.		WISCONSIN.		Covington & Vicinity, Ky.....	50 00
N. W. Iowa Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	6 00	Mineral Point, Primitive Meth. Ch....	10 90	Concordia, Mo.....	43 15
Upper " " " ".....	17 50	West Wisconsin Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	1 00	Camden, N. Y.....	29 07
Wall Lake, Meth. Church.....	3 00		\$1,237 52	Chataqua Co., N. Y.....	43 28
INDIANA.		GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS.		Columbia Co., N. Y.....	32 20
Bloomington, Meth. Ep. Church.....	5 00	A Friend, Missouri.....	\$25 00	Clyde & Vicinity, Ohio.....	36 05
S. E. Indiana Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch....	9 35	" " " ".....	10 00	Clear Lake & Vicinity, Wis.....	25 21
Union City, Meth. Ep. Church.....	30 00	" " " ".....	6 00	Chippewa Co., Wis.....	5 00
KENTUCKY.		Allen, Edson, Toledo, Ohio.....	5 00	Columbia Co., Wis.....	25 16
Louisville Conf., M. E. Ch. South....	21 45	Brown, Emma A., New York.....	1 00	Drew Co., Ark.....	1 60
MASSACHUSETTS.		Collections by Colporteurs.....	260 23	Dallas Co., Iowa.....	21 40
Enfield, Congregational Church.....	1 00	Contributions by Citizens of Tupelo, Miss.....	35 00	Davis Co., Iowa.....	48 00
Great Barrington, Meth. Ep. Ch.....	2 00	Chatterton, W. H., Onslow, Iowa.....	70	De Kalb Co., Ill.....	50 00
Williamstown, Meth. Ep. Church.....	3 00	Darling, Rev. George, Waupun, Wis.....	2 00	Douglas Co., Ks.....	45 16
MICHIGAN.		Ely, Ambrose K., New York.....	500 00	Dade Co., Mo.....	15 65
Irving, Meth. Ep. Church.....	2 00	Fardell, John, Beaver Dam, Wis.....	5 00	Dakota Co., Minn.....	29 55
Newberry, Pres. Church.....	1 75	Fox, George, Stamford, Conn.....	5 00	Delaware Co., Ohio.....	50 00
MISSISSIPPI.		"H. L. S.," Brooklyn, N. Y.....	10 00	Denison, Texas.....	81 00
Grenada, Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	23 50	"H. L. A. Colorado," Appleton, Wis.....	3 00	Dane Co., Wis.....	45 00
Grenada, Pres. Church.....	7 00	Hening, Mrs. Dr. T. S., West Superior, Wis.....	5 00	Dodgeville, Wis.....	21 28
Iuka, Union Meeting.....	45 00	Higley, Abby L., New Windsor, Ill.....	40	Dodge Co., Wis.....	51 20
Morton, Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	6 75	McMillan, Rev. J. H., Angola, Tex.....	5 00	Darlington Bible Com., Wis.....	7 84
" Baptist Church.....	2 25	Miller, G. R., Belinda, Iowa.....	10 00	Edmunds Co., Dak.....	28 60
Newton, Union Meeting.....	10 00	Neubacker, W., Waukesha, Wis.....	30	East Hampton, Ct.....	14 86
Viaden, " " " ".....	5 00	Ormsted, Jane, Ironton, Ohio.....	5 00	Enfield Township, Ill.....	16 64
Water Valley, Union Meeting.....	21 85	Pedro, Joseph H., New York.....	1 00	Emmett Co., Mich.....	65 00
West Circuit, Meth. Ep. Ch. South....	3 18	Presbyterians at Hazen, Ark.....	2 00	Evart Bible Com., Mich.....	17 36
MISSOURI.		Quackenbush, Benjamin V., Hoosick Falls, N. Y.....	10 00	Ennis Bible Com., Texas.....	10 00
Collections through M. E. Book Concern, St. Louis.....	4 75	Ray, Charles, Rose, N. Y.....	5 00	Fordyce, Ark.....	34 43
Palmyra, Meth. Ep. Ch. South.....	4 30	Rogers, Eli F., Branford, Conn.....	30 00	Fayette Co., Ill.....	73 91
St. Louis, St. John's M. E. Ch. South.	180 00	Schmidt, C., New Hampton, Iowa.....	3 25	Fulton Co., Ill.....	64 22
MINNESOTA.		Sproull, Mrs. M. W., Alleghany, Pa.....	60 00	Fairview, Ill.....	34 76
Minnesota Conf., Meth. Ep. Ch.....	4 00	Simonsen, G. W., Heath, Mass.....	1 00	Franklin Co., Ks.....	25 00
NEW JERSEY.		Thomas, Park Y. and M. H., Eastland, Tex.....	5 00	Freeborn Co., Minn.....	22 00
Acquackanonck, Prot. Ref. Dutch Ch.....	220 00	Unknown, by G. T., Red Lake, Minn.....	4 00	Fulton & Hamilton Co., N. Y.....	120 00
Port Oram, Meth. Ep. Church.....	6 00	Van Wyck, James, Johnsonville, N. Y.....	5 00	Fayette Co., (Washington), Ohio.....	45 00
Pompton, Church Collections at.....	31 00	Watson, Rev. Robert L., Iuka, Miss.....	30 00	Fairfield Co., S. C.....	48 00
NEW YORK.			\$1,049 88	Franklin Co., Tenn.....	84 73
Clarksville, Meth. Ep. Church.....	1 00	AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.		Fayette Co., Tenn.....	30 00
De Kalb Junction, Pres. Church.....	1 00	Credited as Donation. on Account.		Fond du Lac Co., Wis.....	7 00
Sparta, First Pres. Church.....	10 00	Alabama.....	\$74 16	Greene Co., Ala.....	31 90
Waddington, Scotch Pres. Church....	61 60	Arapahoe Co., Col.....	165 80	Greensboro, Ala.....	62 45
		Aberdeen, Dak.....	75 00	Greene Co., Ga.....	6 51
		Atlanta, Ga.....	8 58	Galva, Ill.....	75
		Albion & Vicinity, Iowa.....	9 37	Grundy Co., Ill.....	60 00
		Attica & Vicinity, Ind.....	30 00	Grant Co., Ind.....	5 00
				Grand Junction & Vic., Ia.....	21 65
				Greene Co., N. Y.....	10 00
				Geneva, N. Y.....	19 00
				Gulfport Co., N. C.....	58 10
				Guernsey Co., Ohio.....	99 85
				Gilson Co., Tenn.....	81 30
				Giles Co., Tenn.....	108 32
				Grayson Co., Tex.....	58 38
				Green Lake Co., Wis.....	14 85
					43 24

	Credited as Donation.	Credited on Account.		Credited as Donation.	Credited on Account.		Credited as Donation.	Credited on Account.
Grant Co., Wis.....		\$27 00	Livingston & Vicinity, Ky..	\$150 00	\$100 00	Marshall Co., Miss.....		\$80 00
Green Co., Wis.....	\$6 91	20 00	Lewis Co., N. Y.....		45 50	Montgomery Co., N. Y.....	\$240 00	350 00
Hall Co., Ga.....		19 14	Lorain Co., Ohio.....		143 37	Mount Morris, N. Y.....		50 00
Howard Co., Ind.....		66 15	Loveland & Vicinity, Ohio..		52 58	Mt. Prospect & Bethlehem		
Hancock Co., Iowa.....		8 95	Lawrence Co., Ohio.....		30 00	N. C.....	15 00	
Hennibal, Mo.....		75 50	Lewisburg, Tenn.....		26 40	Muskingum Co., Ohio.....	30 00	126 62
Hamilton, Mo.....		8 00	Madison Co., Ala.....		20 00	Meigs Co., West, Ohio.....		34 38
Howard & Vic., Minn.....		23 75	Montrose Co., Col.....		10 97	Mayesville, S. C.....		25 05
Hattiesburg, Miss.....		27 61	Muscogee Co., Ga.....		96	Memphis and Shelby Co.,		
Herkimer Co., N. Y.....	100 00		Michigan City, Ind.....		10 00	Tenn.....		162 19
Hudson Female, N. Y.....		17 00	Montgomery Co., Ind.....		22 94	Mineral Point, Wis.....		16 40
Haywood Co., N. C.....		24 25	McLean Co., Ill.....		124 00	Norcross, Ga.....		1 50
Holmes Co., Ohio.....	150 47		Marion Co., Ill.....		13 78	Northfield, Minn.....		57 96
Hawkins Co., Tenn.....		50 00	Mahaska Co., Iowa.....		21 00	Newburgh, N. Y.....		254 81
Idaho Springs Bible Com.,			Marion Co., Iowa.....		5 00	Niagara Co., N. Y.....		54 00
Col.....		10 45	Marshall Co., Iowa.....	50 00	5 00	North East, Pa.....	42 19	
Ida Co., Iowa.....		35 69	Morning Sun, Iowa.....	30 00	19 94	New London, Wis.....		6 11
Iredell Co., N. C.....		24 50	Muscatine Co., Iowa.....		74 13	Osborne Co., Ia.....		34 78
Jefferson Co., Col.....		10 45	Marion Co., Ks.....		76 30	Oktibbeha Co., Miss.....		8 50
Jasper Co., Iowa.....		56 00	Montgomery Co., Ks.....		46 00	Otsego Co., N. Y.....		56 65
Jefferson Co., Ill.....		26 34	Morris Co., Ks.....		28 70	Orleans Co., N. Y.....		37 55
Johnson Co., Ks.....		24 38	Marion Co., North, Ks.....		2 96	Ontario Co., N. Y.....		91 00
Jackson Co., Miss.....		8 00	Massachusetts.....		1,460 00	Oregon.....		72 86
Jonesville, Mich.....	8 32	18 53	Mower Co., Minn.....		21 33	Oconto Co., Wis.....		16 00
Jackson Co., Ohio.....		5 00	Mille Laes Co., Minn.....		5 00	Prairie Co., Ark.....		7 55
Johnstown Welsh, Pa.....		18 50	Martin Co., Minn.....		14 32	Pueblo Co., Col.....		98 40
Kewanee, Ill.....		25 75	Mount Zion, Mo.....		8 25	Polk Co., Iowa.....		42 76
Knoxville, Tenn.....		114 47	Marion Co., Mo.....		5 51	Putnam Co., Ill.....	108 22	
Lucas Co., Iowa.....		15 75	Mason Co., Mich.....		15 00	Port Sanilac, Mich.....		20 00
Lake Co., Ill.....		25 50	Mecosta Co., Mich.....		17 92	Park College, Mo.....		25 00
La Rue Co., Ky.....		20 70	Mackinac Co., Mich.....		12 33	Plymouth, Ohio.....	30 00	19 02

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

RECEIPTS FOR BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT.

	Legacies.	Church Collec- tions.	Gifts from Aux- iliaries.	Gifts from Indi- viduals.	From Sales of Books Donated.	Sales reported by Colpor- teurs.	Income from Perpetual Trust Funds.	Sales re- ported by Foreign Agents.	Returns from Missionary and other Societies.	Miscellane- ous.	Total Transfers.	Total Cash.
Cash.....	2,605 65	1,237 52	1,814 20	1,049 88	50 73	5,497 58	500 00	.....	.....	5 80	\$	\$
Transfers.....	.....	.....	99 16	.....	.....	28 78	.....	.....	.....	.....	137 94	12,761 36

From Auxillaries.....		436 55	13,892 01
" The Trade.....		69 47	4,565 08
" Rents.....			2,274 49
" Interest on Available Funds.....			20 82
" Merchants' Bank—Borrowed to meet current expenses.....			15,000 00

RECEIPTS FOR MANUFACTURING ACCOUNT.

	Depository Sales.	Retail Sales.	Sales of Waste Material.	Job Work.	Miscellaneous.
Cash.....	.....	5,532 38	288 44	.....	.....
Transfers.....	38,222 26	1,428 64	.....	495 08	6 26

Total Transfers.....	40,856 20	
" Cash Receipts.....		54,334 58
Cash Balance from November.....		9,087 89

N. B.—The amounts in *ITALIC* type are not actual cash transactions, but necessary payments by transfer as between the different Departments, to show the net result of each.

\$63,422 47

	Credited as Donation.	Credited on Account.		Credited as Donation.	Credited on Account.		Credited as Donation.	Credited on Account.
Pittsburgh Welsh, Pa.....	\$150 00	\$0 95	Torrington, Conn.....	\$16 20		Ypsilanti, Mich.....		\$8 00
Pennsylvania.....		2,500 00	Troup Co., Ga.....	50 00		York Co., Neb.....		97 18
Parker Co., Tex.....		63 55	Tippecanoe Co., Ind.....	82 50				
Rockdale Co., Ga.....		16 99	Tazewell Co., Ill.....	30 00	31 49			\$1,814 20 13,892 01
Ringgold Co., Iowa.....		25 00	Tuscola Co., Mich.....	4 80				
Rock Island Co., Ill.....		\$3 55	Tompkins Co., N. Y.....		61 37	FROM SALES OF BOOKS DONATED.		
Republic Co., Ks.....		5 16	Troy Female, Ohio.....		20 19	Cobet, J. W., Kansas.....		\$2 24
Remsen, Steuben, and Vic.			Taylor Bible Com., Texas...		13 20	Haight, Rev. F. M., Ashland, Wis....		1f 25
Welsh, N. Y.....	130 76	5 58	Ulster Co., N. Y.....		200 00	Jett, Robert C., Fairfax Co., Va.....		2 00
Rome & Vic. Welsh, N. Y...		1 58	Union Co., N. J.....		50 00	Jones, Rev. Timothy, Big Rock, Ill..		4 20
Ross Co., Ohio.....	30 00		Union B.S. of Sauk Co., Wis.		11 41	M. E. Ch. Sab. School, Ashland, Wis.		1 00
Roanoke Co., Va.....		45 21	Vermillion Co., Ind.....		16 10	Robertson, Mrs. A. E. W., Muscogee,		
Rock Co., Wis.....	50 00	91 00	Vermillion Co., Ill.....		50 00	Ind. Ter.....		9 84
Ripon, Wis.....		94 51	Van Buren Co., Mich.....		20 02	Storrs, Rev. S. D., Topeka, Kan.....		13 70
Springfield, Ark.....		29 15	Vermont.....		100 00	Whittemore, Rev. J. T.....		6 50
Social Circle, Ga.....		21 00	Vernon Co., Wis.....		8 70			\$50 78
Sumter Co., Ga.....		1 00	White Co., Ark.....		12 10	MISCELLANEOUS.		
Stewart Co., Ga.....		7 60	Washington Co., Ks.....		17 50	Sales by Colporteurs.....		\$5,497 58
Shelby Co. Female, Ind.....		48 01	Washington Co., Maine.....		81 17	Retail Sales.....		5,532 38
Story Co., Iowa.....		39 70	Washington Co., Minn.....		60 49	Trade Sales.....		4,535 08
Scott Co., Iowa.....		28 90	Waseca Co., Minn.....		55 19	Rentals.....		2,274 04
Stark Co., Ill.....		57 47	Wexford Co., Mich.....		19 09	Income from Trust Funds.....		500 00
Scott Co., Ill.....		33 51	Washington Co., N. Y.....	100 00	87 00	Income from Available Funds.....		20 82
St. Clair Co., Ill.....		25 00	Washington Co., Ohio.....		40 00	Sales of Waste Materials.....		288 44
Sangamon Co., Ill.....		40 83	Wayne Township, Ohio.....	18 03	23 97	Loan Account.....		15,000 00
Saline Co., Ks.....		50 00	Wellsville & Vic., Ohio.....		15 00	Miscellaneous.....		5 80
St. Louis, Mo.....		150 00	Washington Co., Tenn.....		30 06			\$32,634 59
Salem Bible Ass'n, N. C....		131 51	Walker Co., Tex.....		25 00			
Sandusky Co., Ohio.....		35 00	Watertown, Wis.....		27 70			
Tennessee River, Ala.....		32 50	Waupun, Wis.....		17 86			
Tulip & Vicinity, Ark.....		16 20	Western Washington Ter...		85 15	Total Receipts.....		\$54,834 58

FOR DECEMBER, 1888.

DISBURSEMENTS FOR BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT.

	District Supt's Salaries and Expenses.	Colpor- teurs' Salaries and Expenses.	Foreign Agencies.	Grants to Mis- sion'y & other So- cieties.	B. S. Record.	Miscel- laneous.	BIBLES.				Total Transfers.	Total Cash.
							To Colport- age.	To Foreign Agencies.	To Life Members.	Donated.		
Cash.....	2,789 78	4,472 77	12,465 20	500 00	129 10	520 86	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$	\$
Transfers...	....	....	....	....	437 23	....	3,997 57	.....	1,460 45	1,741 51	7,636 81	20,877 71
Auxiliaries—Value of Books Supplied, &c.....											23,335 39	8 35
The Trade— “ “ “ “											5,608 90	
Books for the Blind on Account of Burr Legacy Income.....											70 23	
Bible House Expenses.....												2,049 63
General Salaries and Expenses.....											57 80	2,614 92
General Machinery.....												447 48

DISBURSEMENTS FOR MANUFACTURING ACCOUNT.

	Wages.	Material.	Manuf'g Repairs & Expenses.	Building Repairs & Expenses.	Machin'y & Tools.	Salaries and Ex- penses in Depository	DEPOSITORY.			Discount on Sales.	
							Boxes, Cartage, Postage, &c.	Value of Books re- turned.	Books Imported, Duties, etc.		
Cash.....	14,380 66	8,858 10	1,717 16	936 70	....	565 21	643 94	....	....	....	27,101 77
Transfers..	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	79 29	....	3,567 78	3,647 07
Total Transfers.....											40,356 20
“ Cash Disbursements.....											53,099 86
Cash Balance forward to January.....											10,322 61

N. B.—The amounts in *ITALIC* type are not actual cash transactions, but necessary payments by transfer as between the different Departments, to show the net result of each.

\$63,422 47

OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

HON. ENOCH L. FANCHER, LL.D.....	President.
REV. EDWARD W. GILMAN, D.D.....	} Corresponding Secretaries.
REV. ALEXANDER MCLEAN, D.D.....	
REV. ALBERT S. HUNT, D.D.....	
WILLIAM FOULKE.....	Treasurer.
CALEB T. ROWE.....	General Agent.

DIRECTIONS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters relating to the general work of the Society in the United States or foreign lands, and requests for grants of books for distribution at home or abroad, and communications for the Bible Society Record, should be addressed to "The Secretaries of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

Letters transmitting funds, and those relating to accounts, fiscal reports, Life Memberships, and Legacies, should be addressed to "The Treasurer of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

Orders for Bibles and Testaments, the Bible Society Record, etc., and letters in reference to the transmission of the same, should be addressed to "The General Agent of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

Orders for books should be accompanied *with payment*, as the rule of the Society requires that all sales shall be for cash only. *No books are supplied for sale on commission, but as a special inducement, a discount of ten per cent. from the catalogue prices is made to Auxiliary Societies and dealers in books.*

BIBLES AND TESTAMENTS.

The attention of the public is invited to the large assortment of Bibles and Testaments published by the Society, and for sale at cost at the Bible House in New York.

The prices of Bibles vary from *twenty cents to twenty-seven dollars*. Testaments from *five cents upwards*.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS.

FIELD OF LABOR.	NAME AND POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Alabama & Florida.....	Rev. Z. A. PARKER, Birmingham, Ala.
Arkansas.....	Rev. W. H. VERNOR, D. D., Little Rock, Ark.
California & Nevada.....	Rev. JOHN THOMPSON, Oakland, Cal.
Georgia.....	Rev. HERBERT P. MYERS, Barnesville, Ga.
Illinois.....	Rev. E. G. SMITH, Princeton, Ill.
Indiana.....	Rev. W. J. VIGUS, Wabash, Ind.
Iowa.....	Rev. JOHN HOOD, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Kansas.....	Rev. S. D. STORRS, Topeka, Kansas.
Kentucky & Tennessee.....	Rev. GEO. S. SAVAGE, M. D., Covington, Ky.
Louisiana & Mississippi.....	Rev. J. W. McLAURIN, New Orleans, La.
Michigan & Wisconsin.....	Rev. ANDREW J. MEAD, Appleton, Wis.
Minnesota & Dakota.....	Rev. JOSHUA T. EVANS, Minneapolis, Minn.
Missouri.....	Rev. J. W. LEWIS, D. D., St. Louis, Mo.
Nebraska, Colorado, & Wyoming.....	Rev. GEO. W. WAINWRIGHT, Blair, Neb.
New York.....	Rev. DAVID BOYD, Oneonta, N. Y.
North & South Carolina.....	Rev. THOMAS H. LAW, Spartanburg, S. C.
Ohio.....	Rev. E. S. GILLETTE, Cleveland, Ohio.
Oregon, Washington Terr'y, Idaho, and Montana.....	Rev. P. C. HETZLER, Salem, Oregon.
Texas.....	Rev. WILLIAM B. RANKIN, Austin, Texas.
West Virginia.....	Rev. THOMAS COTTON, Parkersburg, W. Va.

NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES.

The officers of Auxiliary Societies are requested to forward their annual reports to the Parent Society promptly. Blank forms will be furnished for this purpose on application.

Whenever a new society is organized, notice of the event should be given *immediately* to the Parent Society, so that it may be recognized. The names of its officers and their post-office addresses should also be given.

No society can be considered as having become auxiliary, until it shall have officially communicated to the Parent Society that its sole object is to promote the circulation of the *Holy Scriptures without note or comment*; and that it will place its surplus revenue, after supplying its own district with the *Scriptures*, at the disposal of the American Bible Society, as long as it shall remain thus connected with it.

DONATIONS.

The payment of thirty dollars at one time constitutes the subscriber a Life Member of the Society. The increase of the subscription to one hundred and fifty dollars, or the contribution of that amount in one payment, constitutes the subscriber a Life Director.

FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

I give and bequeath to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, the sum of _____, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

REGULATIONS RESPECTING GRANTS.

To whom grants are made. Upon suitable application, the Board of Managers will make grants of books, to Auxiliary Societies and to other responsible parties, for sale and gratuitous distribution.

The descriptions of books granted. The Board of Managers grant chiefly their cheaper publications, keeping in view the special necessities of the various classes of persons to be supplied. Fine and costly books cannot be given away consistently with the benevolent ends of the Society.

How to obtain grants. For local work, requests for donations of books should be presented first to the *Auxiliary Societies* within whose fields the books are to be distributed, and whose duty it is to furnish them, if possible. When an Auxiliary is unable to do this, application should be made to this Society, with the endorsement of a responsible officer of the Auxiliary.

Applications from Auxiliaries, and those for general work from other parties, should each have the endorsement of the District Superintendent.

Public institutions supported by local or State governments, and public libraries, colleges, seminaries, and secular schools, do not come within the range of charitable objects.

The American Bible Society expects that due credit will be given for its donations by those to whom its books are confided for distribution.

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD.

The price of the Bible Society Record to subscribers, for 1889, will be 30 cents a year, in advance, and the United States postage in all cases will be prepaid by the Society. Twelve copies will be sent to one address for three dollars, in advance. Any life director or life member of this Society may receive one copy free of postage by virtue of his membership, on the simple condition that the request for it is renewed annually. On the same condition a copy will be sent to pastors of churches contributing directly to the funds of the Society.

Three copies will be sent, as heretofore, to the president, secretary, and treasurer of each auxiliary from which remittances are received. Other copies may be ordered at the club rates; but the money should in all cases accompany the order.

Every person who is entitled to the Record and fails to receive it, is specially requested to communicate the fact by letter or postal card, giving his post-office address.